

Commission on Trauma-Informed Care Meeting

January 20, 2022

10:00 – 11:30am

Meeting held Virtually

MEETING MINUTES

Members in Attendance:

Glenn Fueston, Chairperson

Secretary Sam Abed

Beatrice Amoateng (Senator Carter's
designee)

Ulysses Archie

Senator Malcolm Augustine

Debbie Badawi

Secretary Carol Beatty

Christina Bethell

Heather Chapman

Councilman Zeke Cohen

Mike Demidenko (Secretary Padilla's
designee)

Elizabeth Guroff

Joyce Harrision

Inga James

Colonel Woodrow Jones

Frank Kros

Sylvia Lawson (Superintendent Chaudury's
designee)

Jessica Lertora

Katie O'Mailey

Claudia Remington

Fred Strieder

Councilmember Doncella Wilson

D'Lisa Worthy

Commission Staff:

Christina Drushel Williams

Kelly Gorman

Jessica Wheeler

I. Welcoming Remarks

Mr. Fueston opened the Trauma-Informed Care Commission meeting and welcomed members and guests.

II. Roll Call/Introductions

Ms. Gorman took attendance and confirmed that a quorum was present. Ms. Gorman announced that the last two seats of the Commission had been appointed.

III. Approval of Minutes

Ms. James made a motion to approve the December 16, 2021 meeting minutes. Secretary Beatty seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

IV. Review Commission Goals and Timeline

Ms. Drushel-Williams shared the goals of the Commission. These include:

- Assist in identifying state programs/services that impact children, youth, families, older adults
- Assist in the development of a statewide strategy toward an “organizational culture shift into a trauma-responsive state government”
- Establish metrics with MDH to evaluate the progress of the statewide trauma care initiative
- Coordinate and develop with MDH any formal or informal Trauma-Informed Care training
- Disseminate info among agencies about best practices for preventing trauma on children, youth, families, older adults
- Study developing a process and framework for implementation of an ACES Aware Program in the state and implement the program.

Ms. Drushel-Williams also shared a timeline of due dates for the Commission’s work. This timeline will be shared with Commission members.

V. Visioning Discussion: *Developing a statewide strategy toward an “organizational culture shift into a trauma-responsive state government”*

Members began to develop a framework for how the work of the Commission will be accomplished. Members began by thinking about what the Commission’s core values related to trauma-responsive practices will be. Several members recommended the adoption of the six pillars of trauma informed practices as defined by SAMHSA:

- Safety
- Trustworthiness & Transparency
- Peer Support
- Collaboration & Mutuality
- Empowerment Voice & Choice
- Cultural, Historical, & Gender Issues
 - Commissioners would like to change this language from “issues” because there is an implication that these topics are an issue or problem and should be viewed as considerations and context.

Members also discussed:

- Healing-centered and strength-based approach with an emphasis on prevention
 - Addressing historical trauma, secondary, and vicarious trauma
 - Referring to the brain science of trauma
 - Multi-generational approach
 - Empowering and educating Maryland communities
 - A trauma-informed practice as something that occurs before a trauma even occurs
- Performance measurement
 - Measurable aspects, learning, and feedback
 - Positive outcomes (resilience and self-regulation)
 - Annual Maryland data to formulate a “report card”
 - Accessible to everyone
- Shared definitions across state agencies
 - Shared language and definitions must be established
 - Developmental models of how agencies become trauma-informed
- Public presence
 - Communication - single message from all state agencies
- Psychoeducation
 - Recognizing trauma in user friendly ways
 - Combating victim blaming

Next, members brainstormed what we want to see more (or less) of in the culture of state government?

- State government needs to address trauma because not addressing trauma creates barriers to access to services for children and families
- More accessibility to information and services
 - Including racially just and culturally competent policies and practices
 - Targeting individuals experiencing homelessness and individuals experiencing housing instability.
- Move away from a deficit mindset
 - Working *with* people not *for* them, treating people with dignity
- Emphasis on community and public voice and these voices being heard by state government
- Cross-agency communication

Lastly, members discussed what changes are necessary to put Maryland on track to meet its goals?

- Funding
- Culture changes

VI. Next Steps

Ms. Drushel-Williams presented proposed Workgroups that include:

- Metrics and Assessment
- Training
- ACE Aware

The Commission discussed other possible workgroup focus areas. These include:

- Definitions & Core Values
- Public Awareness (prevention outreach, promotion, and awareness marketing and messaging)
- Organizational Implementation & Technical Assistance (policies and procedures)

Commission staff will share an online form for Commissioners and members of the public to sign-up for a workgroup. The form will also include a request for nominations for members to serve as a workgroup Chair.

Mr. Fueston proposed the creation of a Gantt Chart to keep the Commission and workgroups on schedule and to note progress. Staff will develop this and disseminate it to the Commission prior to the next meeting.

VII. Closing Remarks

Mr. Fueston informed the Commission that the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services is seeking to hire a Trauma Informed Care Program Manager. The job posting and description can be found on [Indeed](#).

The next Trauma-Informed Care Commission meeting is on Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 10:00 am. The focus of February's meeting is to review and discuss draft definitions, the online form for identifying state programs/services, Commission Gantt chart, and workgroup updates.

VIII. Resources & Links

- [CDC & SAMHSA's 6 Guiding Principles to a Trauma-Informed Approach](#)
- [Recommendations Roadmap for California Prop 64 Expenditures: Advancing Healing-Centered and Trauma-Informed Approaches to Foster Individual, Family, and Community Resilience](#)